

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 MOSCOW 06326 071237Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AGR-05 EB-07 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00  
/032 W

-----081045Z 073079 /12

R 061525Z MAY 77  
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7123  
INFO AMCONSUL LENINGRAD  
AMCONSUL MUNICH

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E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: PINT, UR, SOCI  
SUBJECT: FOOD SUPPLIES IN YAROSLAVL', MAY 4-5

SUMMARY. THE MEAT SITUATION IN YAROSLAVL' IS BAD. SUPPLIES OF OTHER FOODSTUFFS SEEMED ADEQUATE. END SUMMARY.

1. IN VISITS MAY 4 AND 5 TO YAROSLAVL'S TWO MAJOR MARKETS AND TWO BIGGEST STATE STORES, WE FOUND THE FOLLOWING MEAT SUPPLY SITUATION: ADEQUATE SUPPLIES OF IMPORTED SMALL FROZEN DANISH HENS WERE SELLING AT STATE STORES AT KRESTYANSKYA 8 FOR R 3/ KILO, BUT WITH FEW TAKERS BECAUSE AS ONE WOMAN SAID, "THEY LOOK TOO OLD." AT THE SAME STORE ON BOTH DAYS, THERE WERE LINES FOR VERY SCRAPPY LOCAL CHICKENS FOR R 1.75/KILO. AT THIS STORE AND AT THE STATE STORE ON PERVOMYASKAYA, BLOOD SAUSAGE WAS SELLING FOR 42-58 KOPECKS/KILO, WITH APPARENTLY ADEQUATE SUPPLIES AND SOME TAKERS. AT PERVOMAYSKAYA STATE STORE AT 1830 MAY 4, FRESHLY OUT HOCK PORK CHOPS WERE SELLING OUT QUICKLY AT R 3.70/KILO. BY THE FOLLOWING MORNING, ALL HAD BEEN SOLD AND NO SUPPLIES WERE EXPECTED.

2. NO OTHER MEAT WAS ON SALE ANYWHERE IN TOWN, AS FAR AS WE COULD SEE. A PICKLE VENDOR AT THE MARKET ON

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UL. KIROVSKAYA TOLD US THERE HAD BEEN MEAT AT THE (LARGER) YARMAKA MARKET ON UL. UGLICHSKAYA THERE DAYS EARLIER, BUT WHEN WE CHECKED THERE, NO MEAT AT ALL WAS AVAILABLE. WE ASKED ONE EGG VENDOR AND HE SAID ALL THE MEAT "HAD TAKEN A WALK;" HE DIDN'T EXPECT ANY MORE SOON.

3. FROZEN FISH AT PRICES RANGING FROM 40 KOPECKS TO

R 2/KILO WAS SOLD AT BOTH STATE STORES. LARGE EGGS BROUGHT R 1.60 FOR TEN AT THE YARMARKA, MEDIUM-SIZED ONE R 1.30 AT THE PERVOMAYSKAYA STORE, WHERE THERE WERE ALSO ADEQUATE SUPPLIES OF BUTTER AT R 1.80/KILO. WHITE BREAD (1ST SORT) COST 30 KOPECKS PER LOAF AT THE MAJOR BREAD STORE ON UL. SVOBODY, 2ND SORT COST 23K. FIRST SORT BROWN BREAD COST 22 KOPECKS/LOAF AT THE SAME STORE, SECOND SORT BEIGE 15 K/LOAF.

4. THERE WERE MORETHAN ADEQUATE SUPPLIES OF ALL KINDS OF APPLES, AT PRICES FROM 80 K TO R3/KILO; CUCUMBERS WERE SELLING OUTSIDE THE KIROVSKAYA MARKET FOR R2.70/KILO. GREEN ONIONS SOLD AT THE MARKETS FOR R 3, NEW ROUND ONIONS FOR R 2. POTATO SUPPLIES SEEMED BARELY ADEQUATE; PRICES RANGED FROM 30 K TO 70 K PER KILO. CARROTS SOLD FOR R 1 / KILO; RADISHES 50 K; GARLIC R 2, AND BEETS, 60 K. SUPPLIES OF LATTER FOUR ITEMS WERE LIMTED, ALTHOUGH THEY SEEMED ADEQUATE TO MEET THE DEMAND.

5. COMMENT: MOSCOW ACQUAINTANCES HAD TOLD US FOOD (PARTICULARLY MEAT) SUPPLIES IN YAROSLAVL' AND KOSTROMA OBLASTS HAVE BEEN POOR FOR MONTHS. OUR OBSERVATIONS IN YAROSLAVL', WHICH IS PROBABLY THE BEST-SUPPLIED LOCATION IN THE AREA, TEND TO CONFIRM THESE REPORTS. IT WAS APPARENT THAT THE MEAT SHORTAGE IN YAROSLAVL' HAS BEEN IN EFFECT FOR SOME TIME, AND NO ONE THERE SEEMED HOPE-FUL OF GETTING NEW SUPPLIES SOON.

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**TAGS:** PINT, SOCI, UR  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009